

E A B R E S O U R C E G U I D E

HOW DO I KNOW IF I HAVE AN ASH TREE?

<http://www.emeraldashborer.info/files/E2942.pdf>

SHOULD I TREAT MY ASH TREE(S):

This is a personal decision based on the health and vigor of the tree **and** how much you want to invest. Treatments need to be done every year or two for the rest of the tree's life. Treatments can be a tool to keep an ash tree alive while a newly planted tree becomes established and provides shade and then removed. Forgoing treatment and removing the tree is also an option. Discuss the options with your arborist.

<https://store.extension.iastate.edu/Product/Emerald-Ash-Borer-Management-Options>

HOW TO HIRE AND FIND AN ARBORIST:

Consult the phone book, talk with neighbors, and search the internet to find a local arborist with a good reputation. Ask for proof of current insurance and call the company to see if it's up-to-date.

There are many companies that certify arborists; the most common is the International Society of Arboriculture. Search for arborists at

<http://www.isa-arbor.com/findanarborist/findanarborist.aspx>

Listen, take notes and ask a lot of questions. It's a good idea to get a second opinion and pick the one you're most comfortable with.

Be cautious of door-to-door "arborists" who claim to have noticed a problem with a tree in your yard. Owning a truck and chainsaw does not make qualify someone as an arborist. Most established, certified, and insured arborists are busy and do not create business by going door-to door.

WHAT SHOULD I REPLANT WITH?

There is no one size fits all solution. The key is diversity: if you have a maple, don't plant another maple. Diversity helps minimize tree loss should a new disease or insect move into Iowa.

When deciding on a tree, it is important to consider the following:

1. Is this tree already on my property or neighborhood (should I diversify)?
2. How tall/wide will this tree be at maturity?
3. What soils does that tree prefer?
4. Does that tree produce a seed I can live with?

A list of common replacement trees is available at

[http://www.iowadnr.gov/Portals/idnr/uploads/forestry/Forest%20Health/species%20list%20\(links\).pdf](http://www.iowadnr.gov/Portals/idnr/uploads/forestry/Forest%20Health/species%20list%20(links).pdf)

Discuss potential replacement tree(s) with your local nursery to make sure they are the best fit.

MANAGING WOODLAND TREES:

Sell the ash that you planned to harvest and keep the remaining ash trees. In all likelihood, emerald ash borers will kill them making those trees habitat. However, scientists will be examining the trees that made it through the infestations looking for resistance.

DNR DISTRICT FORESTS

<http://www.iowadnr.gov/Environment/Forestry/ForestryLandownerAssistance/DistrictForesterContacts.aspx>

CONSULTING FORESTERS

http://www.extension.iastate.edu/forestry/publications/PDF_files/F-361.pdf